

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 06217 071744Z

64

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 HEW-02 IO-10 AID-05 CU-02 /030 W

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R 071715Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8883

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 6217

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, GT

SUBJ: GUATEMALAN CANDIDATES TO PREPARE STUDIES ON MEDICINE AND
PUBLIC HEALTH IN LATIN AMERICA.

REF: DEPT'S A-6416 OF 10/9/75

1. EMBASSY VERY PLEASED WITH SELECTION OF DR ALBERTO
VIAU, WHO HAS SUPERB REPUTATION. CURRENT ADDRESS OF DR.
VIAU IS: ACADEMIA DE CIENCIAS MEDICAS, FISICAS Y NATURALES,
AVE. LA REFORMA 0-63, ZONA 10, GUATEMALA, GUATEMALA.

2. AID HEALTH DIV. CAUTIONS THAT THOUGH DR OTTO
MENENDEZ HAS EXCELLENT PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS HE
HAS BEEN OUTSPOKEN CRITIC OF HEALTH MINISTRY/AID PARAMEDICAL
PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH CARE TO RURAL POOR. DR
MENENDEZ' OPINION IS THAT AID VIEWS RURAL POPULATION AS
SECOND-CLASS CITIZENS AND THEREFORE IS NOT DISPOSED TO PRO-
VIDE THEM WITH FIRST CLASS MEDICAL CARE. HE HAS CONSISTENTLY
AGITATED FOR GREATER SOCIAL AWARENESS AND RESPONSIBILITY
AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY BUT HAS BLOCKED FINANCIAL AND
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE UNIV. FROM FOREIGN SOURCES,
INCLUDING AID. DR MENENDEZ IS VERY BRIGHT, ENERGETIC, PER-
SONABLE AND WELL EDUCATED. AS HEAD OF THE DENTAL SCHOOL
AND DIRECTOR OF THE DEPT OF SOCIAL SERVICES AT THE
UNIV., HE WAS PRIME MOVER BEHIND DENTAL SCHOOL PARTICIPATION
IN THE UNIV. PROGRAM WHEREBY SENIOR STUDENTS
SPEND TIME PRACTICING IN RURAL AREAS.

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3. GIVEN NATURE OF PROJECT, EMBASSY INTERPOSES NO OBJECTION

TO AWARD OF CONTRACT TO DR MENENDEZ TO WRITE DENTISTRY
EDUCATION SECTION OF PROPOSED ANTHOLOGY ON MEDICINE IN LA.
MELOY

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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